

TITLE XI  
*INHERITANCE, ESTATE,  
GENERATION SKIPPING,  
AND FIDUCIARY INCOME TAX*

CHAPTER 86  
INHERITANCE TAX

[Prior to 12/17/86, Revenue Department[730]]

**701—86.1(450) Administration.**

**86.1(1) Definitions.** The following definitions cover Chapter 86.

“*Administrator*” means the administrator of the compliance division of the department of revenue and finance.

“*Child*” means a biological or adopted issue entitled to inherit pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 633.

“*Compliance division*” is the administrative unit of the department created by the director to administer the inheritance, estate, generation skipping transfer, and fiduciary income tax laws of the state.

“*Department*” means the department of revenue and finance.

“*Devise*,” when used as a verb, means to dispose of property, both real and personal, by a will.

“*Director*” means the director of revenue and finance.

“*Estate*” means the real and personal property, tangible and intangible, of the decedent or a trust, that over time may change in form due to sale, reinvestment, or otherwise, and augmented by accretions or additions thereto and substitutions therefor, or diminished by any decreases and distributions therefrom. For the definitions of “gross estate” and “net estate” under this chapter, see those terms as referenced in this subrule.

“*Executor*” means any person appointed by the court to administer the estate of a testate decedent.

“*Fiduciary*” includes personal representative, executor, administrator, and trustee. This term includes both temporary and permanent fiduciaries appointed by the court to settle the decedent’s probate estate and also the trustee of an inter vivos trust where the trust assets are part of the gross estate for inheritance tax purposes.

“*Gross estate*” as used for inheritance tax purposes as defined in Iowa Code section 450.2 includes all those items, or interests in property, passing by any method of transfer specified in Iowa Code section 450.3 without reduction for liabilities specified in Iowa Code section 450.12. The gross estate for tax purposes may not be the same as the estate for probate purposes. For example, property owned as joint tenants with right of survivorship, property transferred with a retained life use, gifts in excess of the annual gift tax exclusion set forth in Internal Revenue Code Section 2503(b) and within three years of death, transfers to take effect in possession or enjoyment at death, trust property, “pay on death” accounts, annuities, and certain retirement plans, are not part of the decedent’s probate estate, but are includable in the decedent’s gross estate for inheritance tax purposes. *In re Louden’s Estate*, 249 Iowa 1393, 92 N.W.2d 409 (1958); *In re Sayres’ Estate*, 245 Iowa 132, 60 N.W.2d 120 (1953); *In re Toy’s Estate*, 220 Iowa 825, 263 N.W. 501 (1935); *In re Mann’s Estate*, 219 Iowa 597, 258 N.W. 904 (1935); *Matter of Bliven’s Estate*, 236 N.W.2d 366 (Iowa 1975); *In re English’s Estate*, 206 N.W.2d 305 (Iowa 1973).

“*Gross share*” means the total amount of property of an heir, beneficiary, surviving joint tenant, or transferee, without reduction of those items properly deductible in computing the net shares. The total of all gross shares is equal to the gross estate.

“*Heir*” includes any person, except the surviving spouse, who is entitled to property of the decedent under the statutes of intestate succession.

“*Internal Revenue Code*” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as defined in Iowa Code section 422.3(4), and is to include the revisions to the Internal Revenue Code made in 1986 and all subsequent revisions.

“*Intestate estate*” means an estate in which the decedent did not have a will. Administration of such estates is governed by Iowa Code sections 633.227 through 633.230. Rules of inheritance for such estates are found in Iowa Code sections 633.211 through 633.226.

“*Issue*,” for the purpose of intestate succession, means all lawful lineal descendants of a person, whether biological or adopted. For details regarding intestate succession, see Iowa Code sections 633.210 through 633.226. For details regarding partial intestate succession, see Iowa Code section 633.272.

“*Net estate*” means the gross estate less those items specified in Iowa Code section 450.12 as deductions in determining the net shares of property of each heir, beneficiary, surviving joint tenant, or transferee. *In re Estate of Waddington*, 201 N.W.2d 77 (Iowa 1972). The total of all net shares of an estate must equal the total of the net estate.

“*Net share*” means the gross share less the liabilities, if any, which are properly deductible from the gross share of an heir, beneficiary, surviving joint tenant, or transferee. The law of abatement of shares may be applicable for purposes of determining the net share subject to tax. See Iowa Code section 633.436; *In re Estate of Noe*, 195 N.W.2d 361 (Iowa 1972); *Colthurst v. Colthurst*, 265 N.W.2d 590 (Iowa 1978); *In re Estate of Duhme*, 267 N.W.2d 688 (Iowa 1978). However, see Iowa Code section 633.278 for property subject to a mortgage.

“*Personal representative*” shall have the same meaning as the term is defined in Iowa Code section 633.3(29) and shall also include trustees. For information regarding claims of a personal representative, see Iowa Code section 633.431.

“*Probate*” means the administration of an estate in which the decedent either had or did not have a will. Jurisdiction over the administration of such estates, among other matters, is by the district court sitting in probate. For further details on the subject matter and personal jurisdiction of the district court sitting in probate, see Iowa Code sections 633.10 through 633.21. For matters regarding the procedure in probate, see Iowa Code sections 633.33 through 633.53.

“*Responsible party*” is the person liable for the payment of tax under this chapter. See 701—86.2(450).

“*Simultaneous deaths*” occur when the death of two or more persons occurs at the same time or there is not sufficient evidence that the persons have died otherwise than simultaneously. For distribution of property in this situation, see Iowa Code sections 633.523 through 633.528.

“*Surviving spouse*” means the legally recognized surviving wife or husband of the decedent.

“*Tax*” means the inheritance tax imposed by Iowa Code chapter 450.

“*Taxpayer*” means a person liable for the payment of the inheritance tax under Iowa Code section 450.5 and includes the executor or personal representative of an estate, the trustee or other fiduciary of property subject to inheritance tax, and includes each heir, beneficiary, surviving joint tenant, transferee, or other person becoming beneficially entitled to any property or interest therein by any method of transfer specified in Iowa Code section 450.3, as subject to inheritance tax with respect to any inheritance tax due on the respective shares of the property.

“*Trustee*” means the person or persons appointed as trustee by the instrument creating the trust or the person or persons appointed by the court to administer the trust.

“*Trusts*” means real or personal property that is legally held by a person or entity for the benefit of another. This includes, but may not be limited to, express trusts, trusts imposed by court order, trusts administered by the court, and testamentary trusts. Such trusts are subject to Iowa Code chapter 450, even in situations when the estate consists solely of trust property.

“*Will*” includes codicil; it also includes a testamentary instrument that merely appoints an executor, and a testamentary instrument that merely revokes or revives another will. For information regarding mutual and contractual wills, see Iowa Code section 633.270.

**86.1(2) *Delegation of authority.*** The director delegates to the administrator, subject always to the supervision and review by the director, the authority to administer the Iowa inheritance tax. This delegated authority specifically includes, but is not limited to, the determination of the correct inheritance tax liability; making assessments against the taxpayer for additional inheritance tax due; authorizing refunds of excessive inheritance tax paid; issuing receipts for inheritance tax paid; executing releases of the inheritance tax lien; granting extension of time to file the inheritance tax return and pay the tax due; granting deferments to pay the inheritance tax on a property interest to take effect in possession or enjoyment at a future date; requesting or waiving the appraisal of property subject to the inheritance tax and the imposition of penalties for failure to timely file or pay the inheritance tax. The administrator may delegate the examination and audit of inheritance tax returns to the supervisors, examiners, agents, and any other employees or representatives of the department.

**86.1(3) *Information deemed confidential.*** Federal tax returns, federal return information, inheritance tax returns, and the books, records, documents, and accounts of any person, firm, or corporation, including stock transfer books, requested to be submitted to the department for the enforcement of the inheritance tax law, shall be deemed and held confidential by the department, subject to public disclosure only as provided by law. See 26 U.S.C. Section 6103 pertaining to confidentiality and disclosure of federal tax returns and federal return information.

**86.1(4) *Information not confidential.*** Copies of wills, the filing of an inheritance tax lien, release of a real estate lien, probate inventories, trust instruments, deeds and other documents which have been filed for public record are not deemed confidential by the department.

**86.1(5) *Forms.*** The final inheritance tax return, inheritance tax receipts, and forms for the audit, assessment, and refund of the inheritance tax shall be in such form as may be prescribed or approved by the director—see 701—8.3(17A).

**86.1(6) *Safe deposit boxes.*** Effective July 1, 1998, there is no longer a requirement for safe deposit boxes to be inventoried and reported to the department prior to the delivery of the assets to the personal representative, transferee, joint owner, or beneficiary.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 22 and 450 and Iowa Code sections 421.2, 450.67, 450.68, 450.94, 450B.7, and 1997 Iowa Acts, chapter 60, sections 1 and 2.

**701—86.2(450) Inheritance tax returns and payment of tax.**

**86.2(1)** *Filing of an inheritance tax return.* Estates meeting certain requirements must file an inheritance tax return, and it is the duty of certain persons associated with the estate to file the inheritance tax return as follows:

*a. Mandatory filing.* The inheritance tax return provided for in subrule 86.2(2) must be filed if the gross share of any heir, beneficiary, transferee, or surviving joint tenant exceeds the exemptions allowable in Iowa Code sections 450.4 and 450.9. In addition, if Iowa real estate is includable in the gross estate, the return must be filed, even if no tax is due, prior to the issuance of a no tax due certificate.

*b. Who must file.* If the decedent's estate is probated as provided in Iowa Code chapter 633 or administered as provided in Iowa Code section 450.22, the personal representative of the estate is charged with the duty of filing the return with the department. If the personal representative of the estate fails to file the return or if the estate is not probated, it shall be the duty of those heirs, beneficiaries, transferees, surviving joint tenants, and trustees who receive shares in excess of the allowable exemptions or shares which are taxable in whole or in part, without the deduction of liabilities, and those individuals in receipt of the decedent's property are either jointly or severally to file the return with the department.

**86.2(2)** *Form and content—inheritance tax return.*

*a. Estates of decedents dying prior to July 1, 1983.* Rescinded IAB 10/13/93, effective 11/17/93.

*b. Estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1983.* For estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1983, the preliminary inheritance tax return is abolished and a single inheritance tax return is substituted in lieu thereof. The return shall provide for schedules listing the assets includable in the gross estate, a listing of the liabilities deductible in computing the net estate, and a computation of the tax due, if any, on each share of the net estate. The return shall conform as nearly as possible to the federal estate tax return, Form 706. For information regarding Iowa returns, see subrule 86.1(5). If the estate has filed a federal estate tax return, a copy must be submitted with the Iowa return. If the federal estate return includes the schedules of assets and liabilities, the taxpayer may omit the Iowa schedules of assets from the return. However, any Iowa schedules indicating liabilities must be filed with the Iowa return due to proration of liabilities. When Iowa schedules are filed with the return, only those schedules which apply to the particular assets and liabilities of the estate are required. A return merely listing the assets and their values when the gross estate is in excess of \$10,000 is not sufficient in non-taxable estates. In this case, the return must be amended to list the schedule of liabilities and the computation of the shares of the net estate before an inheritance tax clearance will be issued.

*c. Special rule when the surviving spouse succeeds to property in the estate.* Effective for estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 1988, the following rules apply when the surviving spouse succeeds to property in the estate:

(1) If all of the property includable in the gross estate for inheritance tax purposes is held in joint tenancy with right of survivorship by husband and wife alone, an inheritance tax return is not required to be filed and a certificate from the department stating no inheritance tax is due is not required to release the inheritance tax lien under Iowa Code section 450.7(2).

(2) If any of the property includable in the gross estate passes to the surviving spouse by means other than by joint tenancy with right of survivorship or if any property passes by joint tenancy with right of survivorship when the surviving spouse is not the only surviving joint tenant, an inheritance tax return is required to be filed.

*d. Estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1999.* In addition to the special rule for surviving spouses set forth in paragraph “c” of this subrule, effective for estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1999, an estate that consists solely of property includable in the gross estate that is held in joint tenancy with right of survivorship and that is exclusively owned by the decedent and a lineal ascendant of the decedent, lineal descendant of the decedent, a child legally adopted in compliance with the laws of this state by the decedent or a stepchild of the decedent, or any other person declared exempt from Iowa inheritance tax pursuant to Iowa Code section 450.9, or a combination solely consisting of such persons, is not required to file an Iowa inheritance tax return, unless such an estate has an obligation to file a federal estate tax return. Property of the estate passing by means other than by joint tenancy with right of survivorship or if any property passes by joint tenancy with right of survivorship when the title of property is held by persons other than a lineal ascendant, lineal descendant, a child legally adopted in compliance with the laws of this state, or a stepchild of the decedent or any other person declared exempt from Iowa inheritance tax pursuant to Iowa Code section 450.9, an inheritance tax return is required to be filed.

**86.2(3) Liability for the tax.** The personal representative of an estate is personally liable for the total tax due from any person receiving property subject to the tax, to the extent the person’s share of the property is subject to the jurisdiction of the probate court and the personal representative. The trustee of trust property subject to tax is personally liable for the total tax due from a beneficiary to the extent of the person’s share of the trust property. Each heir, beneficiary, transferee, joint tenant, and any other person being beneficially entitled to any property subject to tax is personally liable for the tax due on all property received subject to the tax. The person is not liable for the tax due on another person’s share of property subject to tax, unless the person is also a personal representative, trustee, or other fiduciary liable for the tax by reason of having jurisdiction over the property, the succession to which is taxable. *Eddy v. Short*, 190 Iowa 1376, 179 N.W. 818 (1920); *Waterman v. Burbank*, 196 Iowa 793, 195 N.W. 191 (1923).

**86.2(4) Supplemental return—deferred interest.** When the tax has been deferred on a property interest to take effect in possession or enjoyment after the termination of a prior property interest, it shall be the duty of the owner of the future interest to file a supplemental inheritance tax return with the department, reporting the future interest for taxation.

**86.2(5) Amended return.** If additional assets or errors in valuation of assets or deductible liabilities are discovered after the filing of the inheritance tax return increasing the amount of tax due, an amended inheritance tax return must be filed with the department, reporting the additional assets. The appropriate penalty and interest will be charged on the additional tax due pursuant to Iowa Code section 421.27 and department rules in 701—Chapter 10. To file an amended inheritance tax return, Form IA 706 shall be completed and at the top of the front page of the return the word “AMENDED” shall be printed. If additional liabilities are discovered or incurred after the filing of the inheritance tax return which result in an overpayment of tax, an amended inheritance tax return must be filed in the manner indicated above. For amended returns resulting from federal audit adjustments—see subrule 86.3(6) and rules 86.9(450), and 86.12(450). For permitted and amended returns not permitted for change of values—see subrule 86.9(4).

**86.2(6) Due date for filing—return on present property interests.** Unless an extension of time has been granted, the final inheritance tax return, or the inheritance tax return in case of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1983, must be filed and any tax due paid, for all property in present possession or enjoyment:

a. On or before the last day of the ninth month after death for estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1984, subject to the due date falling on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, which would then make the return due on the following business day. The following table for return due dates illustrates this subrule:

Deaths Occurring During:	Return Due Date:
July 1996	April 30, 1997
August 1996	June 2, 1997 (May 31 is a Saturday and June 1 is a Sunday)
September 1996	June 30, 1997
October 1996	July 31, 1997
November 1996	September 2, 1997 (August 31 is a Sunday, September 1 is Labor Day)
December 1996	September 30, 1997
January 1997	October 31, 1997
February 1997	December 1, 1997 (November 30 is a Sunday)
March 1997	December 31, 1997
April 1997	February 2, 1998 (January 31 is a Saturday and February 1 is a Sunday)
May 1997	March 2, 1998 (February 28 is a Saturday and March 1 is a Sunday)
June 1997	March 31, 1998

b. Within nine months after death for estates of decedents dying during the period beginning July 1, 1981, and ending June 30, 1984.

**86.2(7)** *Election to file—before termination of prior estate.* The tax due on a future property interest may be paid, at the taxpayer’s election, on the present value of the future interest as follows:

a. *On or before the last day of the ninth month after the decedent’s death (or within one year after the death of the decedent for estates of decedents dying prior to July 1, 1981).* Compute the tax by applying the life estate, annuity, or present value tables to the value of the property at the date of the decedent’s death. If age or time is a determining factor in computing the present value of the future interest, it is the age or time at the date of the decedent’s death that must be used.

b. *After the last day of the ninth month following the decedent’s death (one year after death for estates of decedents dying prior to July 1, 1981) but prior to the termination of the prior estate.* Compute the tax by applying the life estate, annuity, or present value tables to the value of the property at the date the tax is paid. If age or time is a determining factor in computing the present value of the future interest, it is the age or time at the date the tax is paid that must be used. *In re Estate of Wickham*, 241 Iowa 198, 40 N.W.2d 469 (1950); *In re Estate of Millard*, 251 Iowa 1282, 105 N.W.2d 95 (1960). *In re Estate of Dwight E. Clapp*, Clay County District Court, Probate No. 7251 (1980).

**86.2(8) Mandatory due date—return on a future property interest.**

a. *For estates of decedents dying prior to July 1, 1984.* Rescinded IAB 10/13/93, effective 11/17/93.

b. *Mandatory due date—return on a future property interest for estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1981.* Unless the tax due on a future property interest has been paid under the provisions of subrule 86.2(7), paragraphs “a” and “b,” the tax due must be paid on or before the last day of the ninth month following the termination of the prior estate. The statute does not provide for an extension of the mandatory due date for payment of the tax.

**86.2(9) Extension of time—return and payment.** For estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1984, the department may grant an extension of time to file an inheritance tax return on an annual basis. To be eligible for an extension, an application for an extension of time must be filed with the department on a form prescribed or approved by the director. The application for extension must be filed with the department prior to the time the tax is due and an estimated payment of 90 percent of the tax due must accompany the application—see Iowa Code section 421.27 and rule 701—10.85(422). An extension of time to pay the tax due may be granted in the case of hardship. However, for extensions to be granted, the request must include evidence of the hardship—see 701—Chapter 10. An extension of time to file cannot be extended for a period of time longer than ten years after the last day of the month in which the death of the decedent occurs.

**86.2(10) Discount.** There is no discount allowed for early payment of the tax due.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 421.14, 450.5, 450.6, and 450.9; section 450.22 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, chapter 151, section 46; and Iowa Code sections 450.44, 450.46, 450.47, 450.51, 450.52, 450.53, 450.63, and 450.94.

**701—86.3(450) Audits, assessments and refunds.**

**86.3(1) Audits.** Upon filing of the inheritance tax return, the department must audit and examine it and determine the correct tax due. A copy of the federal estate tax return must be filed with the inheritance tax return in those estates where federal law requires the filing of a federal estate tax return. The department may request the submission of wills, trust instruments, contracts of sale, deeds, appraisals, and such other information as may reasonably be necessary to establish the correct tax due. See Iowa Code sections 450.66 and 450.67 and *Tiffany v. County Board of Review*, 188 N.W.2d 343, 349 (Iowa 1971). For taxpayers using an electronic data interchange process or technology also see 701—subrule 11.4(4). The person or persons liable for the payment of the tax imposed by Iowa Code chapter 450 shall keep the records relating to the gross and net estate required for federal estate tax purposes under 26 U.S.C. Section 6001 of the Internal Revenue Code and federal regulation Section 20.6001-1.

**86.3(2) Assessments for additional tax.** The taxpayer must file an inheritance tax return on forms prescribed by the director on or before the last day of the ninth month after the death of the decedent. When an inheritance tax return is filed, the department shall examine it and determine the correct amount of tax. If the amount paid is less than the correct amount due, the department must notify the taxpayer of the total amount due together with any penalty and interest which shall be a sum certain if paid on or before the last day of the month in which the notice is postmarked or on or before the last day of the following month if the notice is postmarked after the twentieth day of a month and before the last day of the following month. For estates with decedents dying on or after July 1, 1999, the date of the notice and not the postmark date is controlling. If the inheritance tax return is not filed within the time prescribed by law, taking into consideration any extensions of time, or the return as filed is not correct, the department may make an assessment for the tax and any penalty and interest due based on the inventories, wills, trust instruments, and other information necessary to ascertain the correct tax. For interest and penalty rate information, see 701—Chapter 10.

**86.3(3) Refunds.** If the examination and audit of the inheritance tax return discloses an overpayment of tax, the department will refund the excess to the taxpayer. See 701—Chapter 10 for the statutory interest rate commencing on or after January 1, 1982. For estates of decedents dying prior to January 1, 1988, interest shall be computed for a period beginning 60 days from the date of the payment to be refunded. For estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 1988, interest must be computed for a period beginning the first day of the second calendar month following the date of payment, or the date upon which the return which sets out the refunded payment was actually filed, or the date that return was due to be filed, whichever date is the latest. For the purposes of computing the period, each fraction of a month counts as an entire month. If the taxpayer, after the tax has been paid, discovers additional liabilities which, when offset by any additional assets results in an overpayment of the tax, the excess payment will be refunded to the taxpayer upon filing with the department an amended inheritance tax return claiming a refund. No refund for excessive tax paid shall be made by the department unless an amended return is filed with the department within three years (five years for estates of decedents dying prior to July 1, 1984) after the tax payment upon which the claim is made became due, or one year after the tax was paid, whichever time is the later—see Iowa Code section 450.94(3).

**86.3(4) Supplemental assessments and refund adjustments.** The department may, at any time within the period prescribed for assessment or refund adjustment, make a supplemental assessment or refund adjustment whenever it is ascertained that any assessment or refund adjustment is imperfect or incomplete in any respect.

If an assessment or refund adjustment is appealed (protested under rule 701—7.41(17A)) and is resolved whether by informal proceedings or by adjudication, the department and the taxpayer are precluded from making a supplemental assessment or refund adjustment concerning the same issue involved in such appeal for the same tax period unless there is a showing of mathematical or clerical error or a showing of fraud or misrepresentation.

**86.3(5) Assessments—period of limitations.** Effective for estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1984, assessments for additional tax due must be made within the following periods of time:

*a.* Within three years after the return is filed for property reported to the department on the return. The three-year period of limitation does not begin until the return is filed. The time of the decedent's death is not relevant. For purposes of determining the period of limitations, the assessment period shall terminate on the same day of the month three years later which corresponds to the day and month the return was filed. If there is no numerically corresponding day three years after the return is filed, or if the expiration date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the assessment period expires the preceding day in case there is no corresponding day, or the next day following which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

*b.* The period of time for making an assessment for additional tax is unlimited if a return is not filed with the department.

*c.* If a return is filed with the department, but property which is subject to taxation is omitted from the return, the three-year period for making an assessment for additional tax on the omitted property does not begin until the omitted property is reported to the department on an amended return. The omission of property from the return only extends the period of limitations for making an assessment for additional tax against the beneficiary, surviving joint tenant, or transferee whose share is increased by the omitted property. Other shares of the estate are not affected by the extended assessment period due to the omitted property. The inheritance tax is a separate succession tax on each share of the estate, not on the estate as a whole. *In re Estate of Stone*, 132 Iowa 136, 109 N.W. 455 (1906).



**86.3(6) Period of limitations—federal audits.**

*a. Statute of limitations and federal audits in general.* In the case of a federal audit, the department, notwithstanding the normal three-year audit period specified in Iowa Code paragraphs 450.94(5) “a” and “b,” shall have an additional six-month period for examination of the inheritance tax return to determine the correct tax due and for making an assessment for additional tax that may be due.

The additional six-month period begins on the date the taxpayer performs two affirmative acts: (1) notifies the department, and the department receives such a notification, in writing, that all controversies with the Internal Revenue Service concerning the federal estate, gift, and generation skipping transfer taxes have been concluded and (2) submits to the department a copy of the federal audit, closing statement, court decision, or any other relevant federal document concerning the concluded controversy. The additional six-month examination period does not begin until both of the acts are performed. See Iowa Code sections 622.105 and 622.106 for the mailing date as constituting the filing date and Iowa Code section 4.1(34) and *Emmetsburg Ready Mix Co. v. Norris*, 362 N.W.2d 498 (Iowa 1985) when the due date falls on a legal holiday.

*b. Statute of limitations regarding federal audits involving real estate.*

(1) In general. Effective for estates with decedents dying on or after July 1, 1999, in addition to the period of limitation for examination and determination, the department shall make an examination to adjust the value of real property for Iowa inheritance tax purposes to the value accepted by the Internal Revenue Service for federal estate tax purposes. The department shall have an additional six months to make an examination and adjustment for the value of the real property.

(2) Beginning of the additional six-month period. The additional six-month period for assessment and adjustment begins on the date the taxpayer performs two affirmative acts: (a) notifies the department, in writing, that all controversies with the Internal Revenue Service concerning the federal estate, gift, and generation skipping transfer taxes have been concluded and (b) submits to the department a copy of the federal audit, closing statement, court decision, or any other relevant federal document. Such documents must indicate the final federal determination and final audit adjustments of all real property.

(3) Adjustment required. The department must make an adjustment to the value of real property for inheritance tax purposes to the value accepted for federal estate tax purposes regardless of whether any of the following have occurred: an inheritance tax clearance has been issued; an appraisal has been obtained on the real property indicating a contrary value; there has been an acceptance of another value for real property by the department; an agreement has been entered into by the department and the personal representative for the estate and persons having an interest in the real property regarding the value of the real property.

(4) Refunds. Despite the time period for refunds set forth in Iowa Code section 450.94(3), the personal representative for the estate has six months from the day of final disposition of any real property valuation matter between the personal representative for the estate and the Internal Revenue Service to claim a refund from the department of an overpayment of tax due to the change in the valuation of real property by the Internal Revenue Service.

c. *Effect of additional time periods.* The additional six-month audit period set forth in “a” and “b” under this subrule does not limit or shorten the normal three-year examination period. As a result, a six-month additional examination period has no application if the additional six-month examination period would expire during the normal three-year audit period. If additional tax is found to be due, see paragraph 86.12(5) “b” for the inheritance tax lien filing requirements for securing the additional tax after an inheritance tax clearance has been issued. The six-month additional examination period means the department shall have at least six months to examine the return after the notification. The department will have more time if the normal three-year examination period expires after the six-month additional period for examination. After the expiration of the normal three-year examination period, and absent an agreement to the contrary, the six-month extension of the statute of limitations for assessing Iowa inheritance tax based on federal audit adjustments for real property is limited to federal audit adjustments that directly affect Iowa inheritance tax and involve Iowa inheritance tax laws that incorporate Internal Revenue Code provisions. See Iowa Code section 450.94(5), 701—86.9(450) and 701—86.12(450), and *Kelly-Springfield Tire Co. v. Iowa Board of Tax Review*, 414 N.W.2d 113 (Iowa 1987).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.25 and 422.30; section 450.37 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, chapter 151, section 47; and Iowa Code sections 450.53, 450.65, 450.71, 450.94, 450A.12 and 451.12.

**701—86.4(450) Appeals.** A determination made by the department of either the correct amount of the tax due, or the amount of refund for excessive tax paid, shall be final unless the taxpayer, or any other party aggrieved by the determination, appeals to the director for a revision of the department’s determination. For notices of assessment issued on or after January 1, 1995, the department will consider a protest to be timely filed if filed no later than 60 days following the date of assessment notice or, if a taxpayer failed to timely appeal a notice of assessment, the taxpayer may make a payment pursuant to rule 701—7.8(17A) and file a refund claim within the period provided by law for filing such claims. In the event of an appeal, the provisions of 701—Chapter 7 of the department’s rules of practice and procedure before the department of revenue and finance and Iowa Code chapter 17A shall apply.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 17A and section 450.94.

**701—86.5(450) Gross estate.**

**86.5(1) Iowa real and tangible personal property.** Real estate and tangible personal property with a situs in the state of Iowa and in which the decedent had an interest at the time of death is includable in the gross estate regardless of whether the decedent was a resident of Iowa. It is immaterial whether the property, or interest, is owned singly, jointly, or in common. Certain other real and tangible personal property with a situs in the state of Iowa in which the decedent did not have an interest at death may also be part of the gross estate for tax purposes. Examples of such property transfers include, but are not limited to, transfers of real estate in which the grantor retained a life estate, life interest, interest or the power of revocation, property or interest in property in trust, and gifts made within three years of death in excess of the federal gift tax exclusion. These constitute transfers of property in which the decedent may not have an interest at death, but are includable in the gross estate for inheritance tax purposes. *In re Dieleman’s Estate v. Dept. of Revenue*, 222 N.W.2d 459 (Iowa 1974); *In re English’s Estate*, 206 N.W.2d 305 (Iowa 1973); and *Lincoln’s Estate v. Briggs*, 199 N.W.2d 337 (Iowa 1972).

**86.5(2) Foreign real estate and tangible personal property.** Real estate and tangible personal property with a situs outside the state of Iowa are not subject to the Iowa inheritance tax and, therefore, are not includable in the decedent’s gross estate for tax purposes. *Frick v. Pennsylvania*, 268 U.S. 473, 45 S. Ct. 603, 69 L.Ed. 1058 (1925); *In re Marx Estate*, 226 Iowa 1260, 286 N.W.2d 422 (1939).

**86.5(3) Intangible personal property—decendent domiciled in Iowa.** Intangible personal property, or interest therein, owned by a decedent domiciled in Iowa is includable in the gross estate for inheritance tax purposes regardless of the physical location of the evidence of the property or whether the account or obligation is with a non-Iowa financial institution. *Curry v. McCanless*, 307 U.S. 357, 59 S. Ct. 900, 83 L.Ed 1339 (1939); *Lincoln's Estate v. Briggs*, 199 N.W.2d 337 (Iowa 1972).

**86.5(4) Intangible personal property—decendent domiciled outside Iowa.** Intangible personal property may have more than one inheritance tax situs and be subject to multiple state inheritance taxation. Therefore, it has been held that the situs of intangible personal property is the place where the owner is domiciled and also where the intangible has acquired a business situs or is located for state inheritance tax purposes. More than one state can subject the succession to such intangible property to tax. *State Tax Commission of Utah v. Aldrich*, 316 U.S. 174, 62 S. Ct. 1008, 86 L.Ed. 1358 (1942); *Curry v. McCanless*, 307 U.S. 357, 59 S. Ct. 900, 83 L.Ed. 1339 (1939); *Chaffin v. Johnson*, 200 Iowa 89, 204 N.W. 424 (1925). Intangible personal property owned by a decedent domiciled outside Iowa may be subject to the Iowa inheritance tax and, therefore, includable in the gross estate if the physical evidence of the property has an Iowa situs or if the intangible property is an account or obligation of an Iowa financial institution. This intangible personal property is not subject to Iowa inheritance tax if the state of domicile subjects the property to a state death tax and either does not subject intangible personal property owned by a decedent domiciled in Iowa to a state death tax, or grants reciprocity to Iowa-domiciled decedents on like intangible personal property. Intangible personal property owned by a decedent domiciled outside Iowa is subject to the Iowa inheritance tax if the state of domicile does not grant an exemption or reciprocity to like intangible personal property owned by Iowa decedents, or does not impose a death tax on intangible property.

**86.5(5) Classification of property.** The property law of the state of situs determines whether property is classified as real, personal, tangible or intangible and also whether decedent had an interest in the property. *Dieleman's Estate v. Dept. of Revenue*, 222 N.W.2d 459 (Iowa 1974); *Williamson v. Youngs*, 200 Iowa 672, 203 N.W. 28 (1925).

**86.5(6) Insurance—in general.** Whether the proceeds or value of insurance is includable in the gross estate for inheritance tax purposes depends on the particular facts in each situation. Designated beneficiary and type of insurance (life, accident, health, credit life, etc.) are some of the factors that are considered in determining whether the value or proceeds are subject to tax. *In re Estate of Brown*, 205 N.W.2d 925 (Iowa 1973).

*a. Insurance proceeds subject to tax.* The proceeds of insurance on the decedent's life owned by the decedent and payable to the decedent's estate or personal representative is includable in the gross estate. Insurance owned by the decedent on the life of another is includable in the gross estate to the extent of the cash surrender value of the policy. The proceeds of all insurance to which the decedent had an interest, at or prior to death, but are payable for reasons other than death, are includable in the gross estate. *Bair v. Randall*, 258 N.W.2d 333 (Iowa 1977).

*b. Insurance proceeds not taxable.* Insurance on the decedent's life payable to a named beneficiary, including a testamentary trust, other than the insured, the estate, or the insured's personal representative, is not subject to Iowa inheritance tax. *In re Estate of Brown*, 205 N.W.2d 925 (Iowa 1973).

*c. Insurance proceeds includable—depending on circumstances.* Credit life insurance and burial insurance are offsets against the obligation. If the obligation is deducted in full or in part in computing the taxable shares of heirs or beneficiaries, the proceeds of the credit life and burial insurance are includable in the gross estate to the extent of the obligation. Insurance on the decedent's life and owned by the decedent, pledged as security for a debt is an offset against the debt if the insurance is the primary source relied upon by the creditor for the repayment of the obligation and is includable in the gross estate on the same conditions as credit life insurance. See *Estate of Carl M. Laartz* Probate No. 9641, District Court of Cass County, March 17, 1973; *Estate of Roy P. Petersen*, Probate No. 14025, District Court of Cerro Gordo County, May 16, 1974.

Insurance on the decedent's life, payable to a corporation or association in which the decedent had an ownership interest, while not subject to tax as insurance, may increase the value of the decedent's interest. *In re Reed's Estate*, 243 N.Y. 199, 153 N.E.47, 47 A.L.R. 522 (1926).

**86.5(7) Gifts in contemplation of death—for estates of decedents dying prior to July 1, 1984, only.** A transfer of property, or interests in property by a decedent, except in the case of a bona fide sale for fair consideration within three years of the grantor's death, made in contemplation of death, is includable in the decedent's gross estate. Any such transfer made within the three-year period prior to the grantor's death is presumed to be in contemplation of death, unless it is shown to the contrary. Whether a transfer is made in contemplation of death depends on the intention of the grantor in making the transfer and will depend on the facts and circumstances of each individual transfer.

a. *Factors to be considered include, but are not limited to:*

- (1) The age and health of the grantor at the time of the transfer,
- (2) Whether the grantor was motivated by living or death motives,
- (3) Whether or not the gift was a material part of the decedent's property,
- (4) Whether the gift was an isolated event or one of a series of gifts during the decedent's lifetime.

b. *Factors which tend to establish that the motive for the gift was prompted by the thought of death include, but are not limited to:*

- (1) Made with the purpose of avoiding death taxes,
- (2) Made as a substitute for a testamentary disposition of the property,
- (3) Of such an amount that the remaining property of the grantor would not normally be sufficient to provide for the remaining years of the grantor and those of the grantor's household,
- (4) Made with the knowledge that the grantor is suffering from a serious illness that is normally associated with a shortened life expectancy.

c. *Factors which tend to establish that the gift was inspired by living motives include, but are not limited to:*

- (1) Made on an occasion and in an appropriate amount that is usually associated with such gift giving occasions as Christmas, birthdays, marriage, or graduation,
- (2) Made because of the financial need of the donee and in an amount that is appropriate to the need,
- (3) Made as a remembrance or reward for past services or favors in an amount appropriate to the occasion,
- (4) Made to be relieved of the burden of management of the property given, retaining sufficient property and income for adequate support and maintenance.

For a gift to be determined to have been made in contemplation of death it is not necessary that the grantor be conscious of imminent or immediate death. However, the term means more than the general expectation of death which all entertain. It is a gift when the grantor is influenced to do so by such expectation of death, arising from bodily or mental condition, as prompts persons to dispose of their property to those whom they deem the proper object of their bounty. It is sufficient if the thought of death is the impelling cause for the gift. *U.S. v. Wells*, 283 U.S. 102, 51 S. Ct. 446, 75 L.Ed. 867 (1931); *In re Mann's Estate*, 219 Iowa 597, 258 N.W. 904 (1935).

*d. Gifts made within three years of death—for estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 1984.* All gifts made by the donor within three years of death, which are in excess of the annual calendar year federal gift tax exclusion provided for in 26 U.S.C. Section 2503, subsections b and e, are included in the gross estate for inheritance tax purposes. The motive, intention or state of mind of the donor is not relevant. Date of valuation for a gift in which there was a full transfer of ownership is valued at the date in which the gift is completed. However, for a gift of an interest in property that is less than a full transfer of ownership, which includes, but is not limited to, a life estate or conditional gift, the date of valuation is the date of the death of the decedent, unless alternative valuation is chosen. The fact alone that the transfer is a gift, in whole or in part, and exceeds the annual calendar year exclusion for federal gift tax purposes, is sufficient to subject the excess of the transfer over the exclusion to tax. The exclusion is applied to the total amount of the gifts made to a donee in a calendar year, allocating the exclusion to the gifts in the order made during the calendar year. This rule has important application to the earliest year of the three-year period before death because the three-year period for inheritance tax purpose is measured from the date the decedent-donor died. This will only rarely coincide with a calendar year. As a result, none of the gifts made in the earliest calendar year of the three-year period prior to death, regardless of the amount, which are made before the beginning of the three-year period, measured by the decedent's death date, is subject to tax. However, gifts made before the three-year period begins in this earliest year will reduce or may completely absorb the exclusion amount that is available for the remaining part of this first-year period. The significance of the difference between the three-year period prior to death and the calendar year exclusion amount is illustrated by the following:

EXAMPLE. The decedent-donor, A, died July 1, 1995. The three-year period during which gifts may be subject to inheritance tax begins July 1, 1992. During the calendar year 1992, A made a cash gift to nephew B of \$11,000 on May 1, 1992, and a second gift to B of \$4,000 on August 1, 1992. In this example, none of the \$11,000 gift made on May 1, 1992, is includable for inheritance tax purposes because it was made before the three-year period began, based on A's date of death. All of the \$4,000 gift made on August 1, 1992, is includable for inheritance tax purposes because it is in excess of the calendar year 1992 federal gift tax exclusion of \$10,000.

(1) Split gift. At the election of the donor's spouse, a gift made by a donor to a person, other than the spouse, shall be considered, for inheritance tax purposes, as made one half by the donor and one half by the donor's spouse. This split gift election for inheritance tax purposes is subject to the same terms and conditions that govern split gifts for federal gift tax purposes under 26 U.S.C. Section 2513.

The consent of the donor's spouse signified under 26 U.S.C. Section 2513(b) shall also be presumed to be consent for Iowa inheritance tax purposes, unless the contrary is shown. If the split gift election is made, the election shall apply to all gifts made during the calendar year. Therefore, if the election is made, each spouse may use the annual exclusion (\$10,000 for 1994) which shall be applied to one-half of the total value of all gifts made by both spouses during the calendar year to each donee.